



Jordan Times

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Crown Prince receives Senghor

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan received at the Royal Court on Wednesday former President of Senegal Leopold Senghor who arrived in Amman Tuesday at the invitation of Prince Hassan to take part in a meeting of the Independent Commission on International Humanitarian Issues (ICHI) which is to open here on Saturday. The ICHI is co-chaired by Prince Hassan and Prince Sadruddin Aga Khan. During Wednesday's meeting, the Crown Prince and Dr. Senghor discussed Afro-Arab cooperation, particularly in the field of culture, and the ICHI agenda. Prince Hassan and Dr. Senghor co-chair the Afro-Arab Thought Forum. Wednesday's meeting was attended by Minister of Information, Culture and Tourism Mohammad Al Khatib and the director of the Crown Prince's office. Also on Wednesday Prince Hassan received at the Royal Court Mr. Philippe Guillemin, of the French department of cultural, scientific and technical cooperation, who arrived here on Monday. The Crown Prince and Mr. Guillemin discussed scopes of cooperation between Jordan and France in the field of archaeology.

Kennedy meets W. Bank leaders

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (AP) — Palestinian leaders met Senator Edward M. Kennedy on Wednesday and urged the United States to adopt a more even-handed Middle East policy. The meeting at the U.S. consulate took place amid a wave of anti-occupation protests by Arabs in the occupied territories. Four Palestinians have been killed and more than 35 wounded since the protests began last Thursday. Bethlehem Mayor Elias Freij said the six Palestinians briefed Mr. Kennedy on what he called the "incredible" violence. "We told Senator Kennedy that continuation of this cycle of hate will not help anybody," Mr. Freij told reporters after the hour-long meeting. "We told him we would like to see a more active American role, with a more even-handed policy," towards Palestinians. Consulate spokesman David Goode told reporters Mr. Kennedy asked questions about living conditions in the occupied West Bank and Gaza. "That's what he was most interested in," Goode said. He said the Palestinians expressed anger over the week-long violence, adding, "the senator listened to what they had to say," but did not comment.

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Hindawi returns

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Education Thouqan Hindawi returned home on Wednesday after heading Jordan's delegation to a UNESCO conference in Geneva. The conference started on Dec. 2. Mr. Hindawi said on arrival that the conference was devoted entirely to the subject of secondary school education. He said that the Arab group to the conference secured a resolution calling for the respect of the right of the inhabitants of the occupied Arab territories to education and to keeping their national identity.

Israel says 2 guerrillas killed

TEL AVIV (AP) — An Israeli patrol shot and killed two armed men in South Lebanon as they were heading for Israel's border, the military command announced Wednesday. The Israeli unit encountered a group of men at 11 p.m. on Tuesday and opened fire, it said. The command said the two men were carrying rifles and a rocket-propelled grenade. The Israeli command said the two men were carrying rifles and a rocket-propelled grenade. The Israeli command said the two men were carrying rifles and a rocket-propelled grenade.

Muslim envoys losing hope over hostages

BEIRUT (AP) — Two American Muslim envoys crisscrossing the Lebanon and Syria borders in hopes of returning home with at least one freed captive before Christmas were fading. "When we first came we had around a 70 per cent chance of getting them back," said one of the envoys, a 51-year-old American, "but now it's down to 10 per cent."

Reagan: 'Mystique of communism' is shattered

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Ronald Reagan, predicting a bright future for the cause of freedom, said Wednesday the "mystique of communism has been shattered." Mr. Reagan spoke at a ceremony on the occasion of the 38th anniversary of the signing of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. He said the "mystique of communism has been shattered."

Montazeri denies extremist links

TEHRAN (R) — The man named to be Iran's future leader, Ayatollah Hossein Ali Montazeri, denied Wednesday that a relative detained as a "Muslim extremist" had any role in his office and theological school. Mehdi Hashemi was arrested in October with several followers on charges which included murder and kidnapping.

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Schoolgirl and 7 others injured in Israeli action against Gaza protesters

600 Palestinians reportedly detained in anti-occupation demonstrations

Combined agency dispatches

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM — Widespread protests and demonstrations continued in the occupied territories on Wednesday and the focus appeared to have shifted to the Gaza Strip where Israeli soldiers shot and wounded a Palestinian schoolgirl and clubbed and injured seven other Arabs after wounding eight Arabs on Tuesday.

Witnesses quoted by news agencies said Israeli troops used tear-gas shells and opened fire at stone-throwing Palestinian demonstrators at the Bureij refugee camp where they critically wounded another 16-year-old Palestinian boy on Tuesday. United Nations officials said there was widespread protests and demonstrations in the Gaza Strip and Israeli soldiers opened fire and used tear-gas against teenage students in several junior high schools.

CIA director says he had no knowledge of Iran-contra link

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — The chief of U.S. intelligence on Wednesday denied that he knew about the Iran-contra connection well before the scandal was uncovered by the Justice Department, a congressman said. Congressman Gus Yatron said William Casey, director of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), told a closed-door hearing of the House of Representatives Foreign Affairs Committee that he learned of the scheme just two weeks ago from Attorney General Edwin Meese.

Arms-for-Iran scandal is no Watergate, Shultz tells allies

BRUSSELS (R) — U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz said Wednesday he had reassured West European ministers that Washington's arms-for-Iran scandal is not another "Watergate" and would not affect American policy. Allied officials have voiced fears that the Iran scandal could have the kind of paralyzing effect on President Ronald Reagan's U.S. leadership as the 1973-74 Watergate crisis that led to the resignation of President Richard Nixon.

staged a two-hour strike in protest at an incident Tuesday night in which the army entered Shifa Hospital and arrested those injured in Tuesday's protests.

Palestinian sources quoted by Reuters said at least 200 Palestinians had been arrested in Gaza in the last 48 hours. The Israeli army issued no figure for arrests.

Israeli soldiers also prevented a strike of Gaza City's merchants by using crowbars to break their store locks.

In the occupied West Bank, Israeli Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin visited the city of Ramallah under heavy guard amid complaints of the army's handling of seven days of clashes between soldiers and Palestinian protesters.

Seven other Palestinian students were taken to Gaza hospitals with injuries from clubbings by Israeli soldiers. (Continued on page 3)

Intelligence Committee, said his panel was to hold a separate hearing later Wednesday with Adm. Poindexter, former National Security Adviser Robert McFarlane and Deputy CIA Director Robert Gates.

Mr. Meese, disclosing the affair two weeks ago, said Adm. Poindexter and Col. North were the only administration officials familiar with it.

The ranking Republican on the House of Representatives Foreign Affairs Committee said Wednesday he would seek legal immunity for Adm. Poindexter and Col. North whose testimony is crucial to the probe of U.S. arms sales to Iran.

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Syria: U.S. instigating terrorism

DAMASCUS (R) — Syria accused the United States on Wednesday of instigating and financing terrorism and crime against peoples throughout the world. "The U.S. administration has acted in a dirty way to distort Syria's reputation by charging it with terrorism," Damascus Radio said.

PLO stages token Maghdousheh pullout; Amal allows supply vans into Rashidiyeh

Reciprocal moves seen as prelude to 'comprehensive ceasefire'

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Palestinian fighters made a token withdrawal from five frontline positions in the South Lebanon town of Maghdousheh Wednesday after Iranian mediators arranged a ceasefire to end 17 days of fighting, police reported.

Reporters on the scene said the fighters pulled back 100 metres in an apparent prelude to a "comprehensive ceasefire" to end the battles between the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and the Shiite Muslim Amal militia.

Iranian envoys and officials of the Tehran-backed Hizbollah, or Party of God, a militant group that has stayed out of the fighting,

oversaw the withdrawal in the town that overlooks the port city of Sidon, 40 kilometres south of Beirut.

However, police said the plan had been for the Palestinians to withdraw all the way to their refugee camps of Ain Al Hilweh and Mieh Mieh near Sidon.

Police said the Palestinian pullback from Maghdousheh was to be matched by Amal easing an 11-week-old siege of the Palestinian Rashidiyeh refugee camp in Tyre, 40 kilometres south of Sidon.

Under that arrangement, Amal would allow five truckloads of food and five ambulances to enter Rashidiyeh.

A handful of Maghdousheh's

Christian residents ventured from their shell-pocked houses to watch the handover, which was supervised by Iranian officials who have done much of the negotiating in past days.

Hizbollah ambulances took away 20 corpses which had laid in the debris-strewn streets for more than a week.

Shortly after the Maghdousheh withdrawal, some 100 Amal fighters around Rashidiyeh watched as two vans with emergency supplies and six ambulances entered the refugee camp, breaking a two-month Amal siege, Reuters reporter Hala Jaber said.

The ambulances, from the International Committee of the

Red Cross (ICRC) and the Lebanese Red Cross, were expected to evacuate Palestinians wounded in the fighting.

Bulldozers had already removed huge sand barriers erected around the camp as shields from snipers.

In Beirut, Palestinian sources reported sporadic exchanges of rocket-propelled grenades at the camps of Shatila and Bourj Al Barajneh.

Wednesday's moves to implement the truce came after five days when Iranian and Libyan efforts were undermined by flare-ups of fighting and a day after Soviet Ambassador Vassily

(Continued on page 3)

Mubarak's Paris visit expected to cement bilateral ties

PARIS (R) — Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, who began a three-day visit to Paris on Wednesday, was expected to receive full-scale support from France for his efforts to deal with the economic crisis afflicting the Arab World's most populous nation.

President Francois Mitterrand, who greeted Mr. Mubarak on arrival, has already promised to back Egypt's campaign for softer terms from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) for emergency credits.

Egypt wants up to \$1 billion in standby credits from the IMF but Mr. Mubarak says the organisation's conditions for lending the money could spark a new round of unrest like the 1977 bread price riots.

In an interview with Cairo's Al-Ahram newspaper, Mr. Mitterrand said France was willing to help Egypt pull out of its slump but its major role would be in the IMF.

"France plays the role of advocate and friend of the so-called Third World countries, especially Egypt, in those organisations," he said.

Egypt has had to delay repayments on its estimated \$38.6 billion foreign debt due to plummeting receipts from oil, tourism and foreign workers' remittances.

Diplomats say the key aspect of the trip — the first state visit by an Egyptian leader since the monarchy was overthrown in 1952 — is to reaffirm the close political, economic and military ties between Cairo and Paris.

Gorbachev calls on U.S. to respect SALT-II and nuclear moratorium

MOSCOW (R) — Kremlin leader Mikhail Gorbachev said Wednesday the Soviet Union would continue to observe the SALT-II arms limitation treaty and its unilateral moratorium on nuclear tests if the United States responded in kind.

The official Soviet news agency TASS quoted Mr. Gorbachev as saying Moscow had consistently respected the 1979 treaty and had not set off a single nuclear blast since implementing its test ban in August last year.

"We are prepared to continue that path if the United States responds in kind," he said at a dinner for visiting Yugoslav Communist Party leader Milanko Renovic.

The United States breached SALT-II on Nov. 28 by deploying its 131st B-52 bomber armed with

cruise missiles. It has continued underground nuclear testing despite repeated Soviet calls to join the moratorium.

"The U.S. administration is throwing into the waste-paper basket agreements and treaties designed to restrain the spiralling of the arms race," Mr. Gorbachev said.

He called on U.S. allies and other countries to speak out against Washington's violation of the treaty and issued a warning on the consequences for international security.

"If the arms race is not stopped today or tomorrow, if the door to its transfer into outer space is not shut, the world may encounter a baneful heightening of international tension and unpredictable consequences," he said.

Mr. Gorbachev said his meeting with President Ronald Reagan in Reykjavik in October had offered an opportunity to end the arms race.

He accused "militarist forces" in the United States of striving to prevent détente.

Former U.S. President Jimmy Carter and the late Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev initiated the SALT-II treaty in Vienna in 1979, but it was never ratified by the U.S. Congress.

Until last month, however, both countries had said they would observe the limits of the treaty.

Moscow said previously that it would continue observing SALT-II, which limits the U.S. and Soviet nuclear arsenals, because of its "immense universal importance."

Nobel laureate urges help for Palestinians

OSLO (Agencies) — Jewish author Elie Wiesel was on Wednesday awarded the 1986 Nobel Peace Prize and called for action to help the Palestinian people, adding that terrorism was not the answer.

Shortly before Mr. Wiesel made his impassioned plea for human rights, police arrested some 20 children demonstrators in front of the University of Oslo, where he accepted the prize.

The demonstrators, mostly women, had chained themselves together and were chanting loudly against alleged repression by the government of Chilean President Augusto Pinochet.

"Human rights are being violated on every continent. More people are oppressed than free," he said in his acceptance speech.

"And then, too, there are the Palestinians to whose plight I am sensitive but whose methods I deplore. Violence and terrorism are not the answer. Something

must be done about their suffering, and soon.

"I trust Israel, for I have faith in the Jewish people. Let Israel be given a chance, let hatred and danger be removed from her horizons, and there will be peace in and around the Holy Land," he added.

Romanian-born Wiesel, 58, said it was impossible to be neutral in the face of oppression.

He plans to use the two million Swedish crowns (\$290,000) prize money to form a human rights foundation which will initially organise a conference on combating hatred.

"I would be unnatural for me not to make Jewish priorities my own: Israel, Soviet Jewry, Jews in Arab lands. But there are others as important," he told an audience including King Olav of Norway and Danielle Mitterrand, wife of French President Francois Mitterrand.

"Both the Jewish people and

the Palestinian people have lost too many sons and shed too much blood. This must stop, and all attempts to stop it must be encouraged," he said.

Ambassadors from the United States, the Soviet Union, Israel and Egypt attended the award ceremony, which took place amid unusually tight security.

Earlier, Mr. Wiesel was sharply criticised by Palestinian supporters in Norway for refusing to denounce Israeli repression of Palestinians.

"We believe Elie Wiesel supports many worthy human rights causes, but he has a dark spot in his so-called universal conscience, and that is the Palestinian issue," said Sven Liebrechtsen, secretary of the Norwegian Palestine Committee.

He said committee members were to demonstrate against Mr. Wiesel's selection for the prize when he attended a banquet with the Nobel committee Tuesday.

Students stage 'never again' march in Paris

PARIS (R) — Tens of thousands of students marched silently through Paris on Wednesday paying homage to a colleague killed in demonstrations against planned higher education reform and to mark Prime Minister Jacques Chirac's withdrawal of the reforms.

Keystone of the demonstrations here and in other parts of France was "never again" to what the students saw as a threat to their rights and alleged police repression which students say caused the death of 22-year-old Malik Ousseine and severe injuries to two other students.

Before the big march began Gaullist Interior Minister Charles Pasqua, emerging from a cabinet meeting, told reporters he hoped there would be no violence.

"We have taken our precautions and so have the organisers," he said. "Security forces are very light and they will be held in reserve. I hope everything goes off all right."

Massive student protests against the reform plan last weekend began peacefully. But they ended in bloody clashes in the Latin quarter between riot police and demonstrators in which

Ousseine, a French student of Algerian origin, died after an alleged police beating and dozens of other students and police were injured.

The Communist-led CGT trade union confederation, the nation's largest, gave its full backing to the student protest and associated work stoppages. After much hesitation, it was also supported by the pro-Socialist Fen teachers' union.

The five-kilometre route of Wednesday's march avoided sensitive areas such as the National Assembly and the city hall, where Mr. Chirac has offices and an apartment as mayor of Paris.

Mr. Chirac, facing his most serious crisis since the Socialists were ousted from five years in power in the March general elections, finally bowed to the student pressure on Monday.

Socialist President Francois Mitterrand, engaged in an uneasy power-sharing exercise with a rightist prime minister, said in a rare radio interview on Tuesday that Mr. Chirac had taken the wise decision — "in time but a little too late."

Government-rebel truce takes hold in Philippines

MANILA (AP) — Church bells rang in the start of the first national ceasefire of the 17-year-old Communist insurgency on Wednesday, but rebel leaders warned that continuing differences over the accord still could threaten peace.

No clashes were reported between government forces and the rebel New People's Army in the opening hours of the ceasefire, scheduled to extend through the Feb. 2 plebiscite on a new national constitution.

However, in Davao City, gunfire erupted at a leftist march in support of human rights and the ceasefire, killing one man and injuring five, authorities said.

The clash between leftists and members of an anti-Communist group broke out just hours after the ceasefire took effect.

Armed Forces Chief of Staff General Fidel V. Ramos said he had ordered field commanders to "comply with the letter and spirit of the ceasefire," but warned the public not to accept "terrorism... that the NPA has perpetrated." In provincial cities such as Bacolod and Cebu, church bells rang as the agreement went into effect. In Bacolod, 500 kilometres

south of Manila, 15,000 to 20,000 people turned out for a rally. The crowd included Nemesio Demafiles, the NPA commander for Negros Island, and the Rev. Francisco Fernandez, a member of the rebel National Democratic Front.

Father Fernandez told the crowd the rebels had come bearing "the tablets of peace and progress."

Following a mass at the end of the rally, hundreds of balloons and doves were released while the crowd chanted "ceasefire, ceasefire." Government officials and rebel leaders embraced.

In Manila, government negotiator Teodoro Guingona, appearing together with a rebel counterpart, called on both parties "to exercise the utmost restraint and good faith."

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Paris may free Naccache if all hostages are released

PARIS (R) — President Francois Mitterrand has said he might be prepared to pardon Anis Naccache, an Islamic militant jailed in France for murder, in exchange for all French hostages held in Lebanon.

Mr. Mitterrand, interviewed on radio, confirmed that he had discussed the possibility of freeing Naccache both with Prime Minister Jacques Chirac and his predecessor Laurent Fabius. "I didn't say 'no'," Mr. Mitterrand said. He said that if the government were to propose such an exchange "I would examine the circumstances" but would insist that all the French hostages, not some of them, should be freed. Mr. Mitterrand's remarks were the first public confirmation of reported talks on the possible release of Naccache, leader of a five-man commando which tried to assassinate former Iranian Prime Minister Shapur Bakhtiar in Paris.

Naccache, serving a life sentence for the 1980 shooting in which Bakhtiar escaped but two people were killed, has dissociated himself from a terror bombing campaign in France aimed at securing his release and that of two other Middle East urban guerrillas held here.

Five French hostages, including two diplomats, are still held in Lebanon by different groups, and the killing of a sixth, researcher Michel Seurat, has been announced by his captors. His body has never been found.

Four hostages have been freed since Mr. Chirac took office and began making a vigorous effort to normalise relations with Tehran.

Mr. Mitterrand said he would never agree to any phased deal to exchange the hostages for "killers" jailed in France, but might consider using his right of pardon at the formal request of the government, if all the hostages were set free at one time.

But he said France would never agree to other demands originally made by the kidnappers, including a reversal of its support for Iraq in the Gulf war against Iran.

"It was impossible to accept these conditions. France is not going to ally itself with Iran and forget its obligations to Iraq. It is out of the question," Mr. Mitterrand said.

He confirmed French readiness to solve its financial dispute with Iran "as long as it does not imply some kind of ransom."

Relative of Montazeri confesses to murder and other charges

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP) — A relative of the chosen successor to Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini confessed to murder, hoarding weapons and working for the shah's secret police, Tehran Radio said Wednesday.

The relative, Mehdi Hashemi, said the base for his activities was the office of the unwelcome Hussein Ali Montazeri, also an ayatollah and Khomeini's hand-picked heir.

The radio, monitored in Nicosia, said Hashemi made the statements in an interview aired by state-run television Tuesday. It quoted Hashemi as saying he was guilty of "gross deviations," including "standing up against the Imam of the Islamic nation," a reference to Khomeini.

Hashemi, the former head of Iran's Global Islamic Movement that is in charge of exporting the Islamic revolution, was arrested in October on charges of murder, kidnapping, illegal possession of weapons, forgery and unspecified "underground operations."

He said on TV that he "abused the confidence" of Montazeri, "and such instances resulted in a subjective and groundless analysis being attributed to the office of Grand Ayatollah Montazeri."

Montazeri's office in the holy city of Qom is run by Hashemi's brother, who is also Montazeri's son-in-law.

The office issued a statement Wednesday in which Montazeri denied Hashemi's claim that he used the office, saying Hashemi "was in no way involved in my office or schools affiliated to me," Tehran Radio said.

The Information Ministry said in a statement reported by the Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) that all charges made against Hashemi and his collaborators had been proven, except one.

Hashemi is believed to have been arrested as part of a power struggle between allies of Parliament Speaker Hashemi Rafsanjani and Montazeri.

Carter aides have mixed feelings over arms scandal

WASHINGTON (R) — Former aides to Jimmy Carter, the target of Ronald Reagan's barbs over the capture of 52 Americans in Tehran during the 1980 presidential campaign, say they take little joy from Mr. Reagan's current problems with Iran.

They confess to slight satisfaction that the tables have turned on Mr. Reagan, who defeated then President Carter in that election.

But several former Carter aides said they felt sympathy for their successors on the White House staff and were concerned for the country during the crisis over the sale of arms to Iran and the use of sales profits to help right-wing rebels in Nicaragua.

"For anyone who went through it and saw the degree to which Mr. Reagan used a national crisis against President Carter, there is a certain fleeting satisfaction," Stuart Eizenstat, who was Mr. Carter's top domestic affairs adviser, told Reuters.

"But it is extremely fleeting. It's no time for political retribution because it's too serious a situation."

Mr. Reagan's landslide election victory was due in part to public frustration over Mr. Carter's failure to obtain the freedom of the Americans held hostage in Iran for 444 days.

The hostages were ultimately released on Jan. 20, 1981, minutes after Mr. Reagan was sworn in as president.

Although the public initially rallied behind Mr. Carter, his popularity slipped rapidly after an unsuccessful rescue attempt by American military forces failed in April 1980.

Mr. Reagan often cited the hostage situation, which he called "a humiliation and a disgrace," as an example of Mr. Carter's weak leadership. He repeatedly vowed to stand up to terrorists.

"One cannot help but remember that during those long days and months when we were trying to deal with the hostage crisis, the Reagan campaign falsely accused us of doing exactly what they have done here," former Carter Press Secretary Jody Powell said.

Mr. Carter himself has said little about his successor's plight but he told a television interviewer recently: "We've paid ransom in effect to the kidnappers of our hostages... this is a very serious mistake."

Former Carter aides said they had no interest in gloating over the ironic development that, according to one recent poll, Americans now think Mr. Carter had more success than Mr. Reagan in dealing with Iran.

"You can't help but sympathize with people who are faced with a situation with which you are very familiar and with a problem that has no easy answer," Powell said. Eizenstat said he was said Mr. Reagan had not learned from Mr. Carter's errors.

Both men counselled Mr. Reagan to make his own inquiry

into the arms sale scandal and release all the facts immediately rather than let new information dribble out through other channels.

Eizenstat said: "When you become involved in a crisis like this it becomes totally consuming. There is just a black mood created in the White House."

Meanwhile in Parsippany, New Jersey, former U.S. President Richard Nixon was quoted Tuesday as saying President Reagan was handling the Iran arms scandal better than he himself dealt with Watergate.

"Nixon said he felt he (Reagan) had handled the mechanics of getting to the bottom of the investigation as efficiently as possible," said Pennsylvania Governor Richard Thornburgh, who attended a private meeting of Republican governors addressed by Mr. Nixon.

"Nixon indicated he felt it (the Iran arms controversy) was handled better," Mr. Thornburgh said. Mr. Nixon resigned in 1974 to avoid impeachment over a "dirty tricks" campaign which surfaced with the bungled burglary of the Democratic Party's Watergate headquarters.

Former Nixon aide Roger Stone quoted Mr. Nixon as telling the governors that "Watergate was handled abysmally. This has been handled expeditiously," he said of the Iran affair.

The New York Times said in an editorial Wednesday the Reagan

administration's arms-for-Iran policy, however noble its stated ends, was "fatally flawed" from the start.

Covert overtures to Iran disregarded the totalitarian nature of the Islamic Republic, public U.S. demands that its allies never negotiate with terrorists and the incentives to future kidnappings any arms shipments would provide, the newspaper said.

"Which moderates could receive arms secretly, without the knowledge of Ayatollah (Ruhollah) Khomeini and his Islamic totalitarian state?" it asked.

While three hostages were freed, three others were seized, the paper noted. "Beyond grossly miscalculating the chances of success, the administration apparently gave little thought to the consequences of failure."

"The officials involved had to assume that their secret would be revealed one day. Little foresight or insight was needed to understand that this would mean total loss of credibility," the editorial said.

Former National Security Adviser Robert McFarlane "contends that the fault lay in trying to formulate and execute a policy too sophisticated for the public," the paper said. "That blames democracy for the shortcomings of the leaders. For sure, the process faltered. But the policy was also wrong. From the start."

Cooper, 51, had been held without charge since his arrest on Dec. 7, 1985. He had been working as a marketing manager for the oil construction company McDermott International, and a free-lance journalist for the Financial Times, Britain's business daily.

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Jewish terrorist convicted of attack on Shaka

TEL AVIV (AP) — An American-born leader of the Jewish settlement movement in the occupied West Bank was convicted Wednesday of belonging to a terror ring that attacked Palestinians, a court official said.

Ira Rappaport, formerly of New York, was also convicted of aggravated assault in connection with the 1980 booby-trap bombing of a car belonging to the former mayor of Nablus, Bassam Shaka. Shaka's legs were blown off in the explosion.

Rappaport was allowed to go free on \$100,000 bail after his conviction in Jerusalem district court, said court clerk Moshe Shamash.

Shamash said he would be taken into custody on Dec. 21, two days before his scheduled sentencing.

Rappaport was arrested Sunday after returning from a three-year stay in the United States with his wife, Oni.

UAE denounces U.S. arms deal with Iran

ABU DHABI, United Arab Emirates (AP) — The United Arab Emirates on Wednesday denounced the U.S.-Iran arms deal as detrimental to peace in the troubled Gulf region.

The statement by Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed, crown prince of Abu Dhabi and deputy supreme commander of the UAE Armed Forces, was the first reaction by a high official here to the controversial deal.

The UAE is the current chairman of the Gulf Cooperation Council, an economic integration and collective defence pact that also includes Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar and Oman.

Saudi Arabia has disclaimed any involvement in the arms deal, while Kuwait rejected it as a "move that could only undermine the responsibilities of the United States as a superpower."

Kuwait also said the arms deal might "encourage other powers to dishonour their commitments in working for a speedy end to the destructive war and prolong its duration."

The state-guided media along the Gulf was meanwhile strongly denouncing the Reagan administration for the secret deal with Iran.

In an interview to the Saudi Arabian weekly magazine Al Majallah, Sheikh Khalifa complained that the American arms supplies to Iran "add to the obstacles and difficulties on the road to peace."

He warned that arms supplies to Iran "would escalate tension, confrontation and defiance" between warring Iran and Iraq.

Jailed Briton charged with espionage in Iran

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP) — Iran announced Wednesday that British businessman and journalist John Roger Cooper, held in Iran for over a year, has been charged with espionage.

The announcement carried by the Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) monitored in Nicosia, followed Britain's warning that Cooper's continued detention would harm consular relations with Iran.

Iranian Prime Minister Hussein Musavi said the Information Ministry "will soon present the necessary information on this British spy," said Tehran Radio.

Mr. Musavi also said Iran was opposed to, linking the improvement of relations with Britain to the case of "one of (Britain's) citizens who is in Iran," added the radio, monitored in Nicosia.

The British warning was delivered Monday by Foreign Office Junior Minister Timothy Eggar in a meeting with Iranian Charge d'Affaires Akhmdzadeh Basti in London.

Mr. Basti was told that the continued detention of Cooper without charge and without access to consular officials was "totally unacceptable."

Cooper, 51, had been held without charge since his arrest on Dec. 7, 1985. He had been working as a marketing manager for the oil construction company McDermott International, and a free-lance journalist for the Financial Times, Britain's business daily.

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17:25 Run Away Island
17:50 Documentary on Agriculture in Jordan

PROGRAMME TWO

18:30 Disques d'or '85
19:00 News in French
19:15 French programme
19:30 News in Hebrew
19:45 Sport Magazine
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Check it Out
21:10 Falcon Crest
22:00 News in English
22:30 Feature film: "The Heroes of Telmank"

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13:30 News Bulletin
14:10 Sports Magazine
14:30 Just a Minute
15:00 Concert Hour
15:30 News Summary
16:00 Instrumentals
16:30 Old Favourites
17:00 The Musical in Review
17:30 Pop Session
18:00 News Summary
18:30 Special Feature
19:00 Music
19:30 Newsday
19:50 Date with a Star

FOR FRIDAY

JORDAN TELEVISION

PROGRAMME ONE

10:00 Koran
10:30 Programme review
10:35 Cartoons and children programme
11:15 Friday's Prayer
12:00 Religious seminar
12:30 Sport Magazine
13:00 Give me a Break
13:30 Arabic series
14:00 Body in Question
14:30 European Song Contest
15:15 Arabic series
15:45 Viewer's choice (Arabic)
16:30 News programme
17:00 News in Arabic
17:30 A programme on the occupied West Bank

PROGRAMME TWO

18:00 French film
19:00 News in French
19:15 French Varieties
19:30 News in Hebrew
19:45 News in Arabic
20:00 A programme on the occupied West Bank
20:30 Weekly Preview
21:10 Once An Eagle
22:00 News in English
22:30 Sherlock Holmes

RADIO JORDAN

855 KHz. AM & 99 MHz. FM
partly on 9500 KHz. SW
Tel. 77411-19

PROGRAMME ONE

07:00 Light Music

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS

EXHIBITIONS

* An art exhibition by Egyptian artist Hassan Jaki at the Royal Cultural Centre (until Dec. 13).

CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES

* An exhibition of some 50 works by British painters who visited the region in the Nineteenth Century at the Jordan National Gallery of Fine Arts, Jabal Luveldin.

PLAY

* A play in English entitled "Oh What a Lovely War" by the Royal Theatre Club daily at 8:00 p.m. at the Royal Cultural Centre (until Dec. 11).

FEATURE FILM

* "It's A Wonderful Life" at 7:00 p.m. Thursday at the American Centre.

PIANO RECITALS

* Piano recitals by the famous German pianist Edith Heintz and Hans-Helmut Schwarz at 8:00 p.m. Thursday at the Royal Cultural Centre.

INAUGURATION

* The inauguration of the American Centre Video Library at 4:00 p.m. Thursday at the American Centre.

CULTURAL CENTRES

Royal Cultural Centre Tel. 6610267
American Centre Tel. 644371
British Council Tel. 641520
French Cultural Centre Tel. 637009
German Cultural Centre Tel. 641993
Soviet Cultural Centre Tel. 644303
Spanish Cultural Centre Tel. 624049
Turkish Cultural Centre Tel. 639777
Hays Arts Centre Tel. 661195
Hussein Youth City Tel. 667181
Y.W.C.A. Tel. 641793

PRAYER TIMES

06:59 (Sunrise) Doha
07:27 (Sunrise) Doha
11:29 Doha
14:34 Asr
16:31 Maghrib
17:59 Isha

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FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by the information department at the Queen Alia International Airport (08) 53300-5, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

ALIA FLIGHTS

09:00 Agaba (RJ)
09:20 Beirut (ME)
09:30 Athens (SV)
10:00 Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
10:05 Doha, Bahrain (RJ)
10:30 Cairo, Agaba (RJ)
10:55 Rome (RJ)
11:00 London (BA)
11:00 Larnaca (RJ)
11:35 New York, Vienna (RJ)
11:40 Bucharest (RJ)
11:50 Athens (SV)
11:55 Rome (RJ)
01:00 Baghdad (RJ)

OTHER FLIGHTS

10:30 Riyadh (SV)
11:45 Kuwait (LN)
12:30 Baghdad (IA)
12:50 Abu Dhabi, Doha, Bahrain (GF)
13:05 Kuwait (KU)
13:05 Doha, Bahrain (RJ)
13:30 Cairo, Agaba (RJ)
16:55 Beirut (ME) (add)
18:30 Amsterdam, Damascus (KLM)
19:10 Frankfurt (LH)
19:10 Zurich, Larnaca (SR)
01:50 London, Baghdad (BA)

DEPARTURES

ALIA FLIGHTS

06:45 Agaba (RJ)
10:30 Bucharest (RJ)
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12:00 Paris, London (RJ)
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FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

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Jordan Times

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We could contribute more

UNICEF, the United Nations Children's Fund, through its state of the world's report released yesterday, poses some most unusual and dramatic questions to the international conscience, especially to those who take the decisions that steer the course of the world. Are they doing enough to protect the children, the generation that the world hopes would carry the torch of its aspirations and hopes further towards international peace, love and understanding? Do the world leaders have the moral muscle to end that obscene situation where the world reacts indignantly to sudden famines and droughts but adopts a low-key approach to the "silent emergency" which claims 280,000 children every week? Is it acceptable that while the cost of immunising each and every one of the world's children is less than that of five advanced jetfighters, most countries are spending billions of dollars on military hardware?

Answers do not come easily to these soul-searching questions. The political and economic considerations that influence the decision-makers, particularly those dictated by world financial institutions at this time of global economic recession, hit those who are most vulnerable: the poor of the world, and by extension, the innocent souls that live to see the light of the world for a few days or months before leaving us because of scaled-down health services. A state is able to pay its debts, but at what cost? At the expense of its future generations?

The UNICEF report quotes former Tanzanian President Julius Nyerere: "Must we starve our children to pay our debts?" And Pakistani Finance Minister Maqbool Ul-Haq: "Must we starve our children to raise our defence expenditure?"

These questions cannot wait for answers. The time to act is yesterday but today it is not too late.

Just as we would react indignantly to a situation where two accidents kill 20 or 30 children in a row, we should also realise that the "silent emergency" where thousands of children die in an unseen way, away from publicity, is one of our most important priorities.

We in Jordan do enjoy a good record in health services and child care. UNICEF cites the Kingdom's experience and practices as a model to be emulated by other world nations with limited resources but a wise leadership and diligent people.

Jordan's contribution to the international campaign to protect the world's children has materialised through setting an example of our being one of those countries which have achieved the optimum results despite adverse conditions while working within strict limitations.

Obviously, we could do more to contribute to UNICEF's global campaign. This we could do by accelerating our own programme and mobilising all the means at our disposal to protect and safeguard our future generations.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: U.S. defends Israel

THE United States opted to refrain from condemning Israel's atrocities in the occupied territories which were condemned by all other nations. Its representative at the United Nations Security Council abstained from voting on a resolution that deplored the killing of defenceless students during the on-going protests in the West Bank. Thus Washington has chosen to turn its back to justice and to implicitly condone Israel's actions and its racist rule. U.S. abstention in the voting meant applauding Israel's brutal actions and shedding of Arab blood. For us, this American stand is not a novelty because on all previous occasions whenever the international community condemned Israel's actions the United States stood alone in supporting the Jewish state. The United States, regardless of who is in power at the White House, has adopted a firm and unchanging policy based on hostility towards Arab people. Therefore, and in line with this policy, Washington would not be expected to condemn the killing of Arab children. It is noted however that the United States this time did not veto the council's resolution that condemned Israel's actions, but abstaining from such condemnation is almost tantamount to condoning criminal actions, a stand that does not indicate any change in Washington's firm and hostile policy towards the Arab Nation. On the other hand, the Israelis would not be affected by any condemnation on the part of the Security Council or the international community as a whole because the racist regime in Israel which has been occupying Palestinian land by force of arms does not respect the will of the international community nor does it honour international laws.

Al Dustour: World disgusted by Israeli actions

THE international community expressed its total disgust at Israel's barbaric actions against the Arab population under its rule by voting on a resolution at the United Nations Security Council condemning the killing of Arab youths at the hand of Israeli forces. Even the United States this time chose not to veto the resolution and abstained from voting on a call on Israel to respect the Geneva conventions on the treatment of the civilian population. This indicates clearly that the international community at large deplores the Jewish state's actions against the unarmed and defenceless civilians. We believe that the resolution expresses the will of the international community but we also realise that Israel which often scoffs at United Nations resolutions would not be deterred from committing further criminal actions in the occupied Arab territories. In its disregard to United Nations resolutions, Israel depends on political and material support from the United States, and counts on continued weakness and disunity among the Arab countries. It is true that the on-going uprising in the West Bank against the Israeli occupation represents the people's strong will to maintain resistance in the face of the enemy, but the whole Arab Nation is now called on to extend all possible help to their brothers in their ordeal. Help to the Palestinians now is bound to enable them to maintain their just struggle for regaining their rights and their land. This help should be enhanced also by a strong united Arab stand and a genuine form of solidarity in the face of the atrocities committed by the enemies of the Arab Nation.

Sawt Al Shaab: One more U.N. resolution

ONCE again the international community condemns Israel's violations of human rights and continued atrocities against the people of the Palestinian land. This time, the United States opted to abstain from voting on a resolution before the Security Council condemning Israel's killing of the Palestinian youths, thus adding to the severity of the condemnation of Israel's actions. This is not the first time for the international community to show unanimity in deploring Israel's illegal actions; and the United Nations records abound with many instances of world condemnation of Israel for killing Arabs or causing destruction to their property through aggression. Indeed this is not the first time for the international community to condemn Israel's criminal activity and its violation of human rights and its disregard to human values and cultural and religious places. The on-going resistance activity in the occupied Arab territory is being written with the blood of the Palestinian youths who sacrificed their souls for the liberation of their land. Perhaps the world will now wake up to the call of Jordan for convening an international conference that could end the conflicts in the Middle East and restore the rights of the Palestinian people in their homeland. We appreciate the world community's supportive stand for the Arabs and its sympathy with their cause, but we need to have some form of action through an international conference that could actually find a just and durable solution for the whole issue and end the tragedy of the Palestinian people.

VIEW FROM AMERICA

'Irangate' highlights split within Reagan administration

By Franz Schurmann

THE political upheaval in Washington is now being called Irangate! All the key newspapers now see similarities to Watergate. It is being called the worst crisis in the six years of the Reagan presidency.

The crisis began with revelations of direct arms shipments by the U.S. to Iran. Those shipments, it was said, were related to securing the release of American hostages in Lebanon. Then, suddenly and unexpectedly, a connection was revealed to Nicaragua. Why has it happened now? What does it mean for the U.S., for the world, for the Middle East?

A first point: a rapprochement between the United States and Iran has been going on quietly and indirectly for some time. It was not that secret. China has been playing a key role in that rapprochement. China is a key arms supplier to Iran and has become a close ally of the U.S. France has also played a key role. Under Chirac, France has shifted from the pro-Israel policy of Mitterrand. It has sought closer ties with Syria, and recently it has improved its relations with Iran. Washington, Peking, and Paris have been working together in the Middle East (except perhaps on Israeli matters).

A second point: a rapprochement has been taking place between Saudi Arabia and Iran. That too was not secret, evident in Saudi-Iranian cooperation in OPEC to bring the world price of oil back up to \$18 a barrel. But it was not mentioned in the American press until Irangate erupted.

A third point: the U.S. has long been trying to get other nations to help the Nicaraguan "contras." Apparently it has sought to involve Saudi Arabia, Iran, and Israel, directly or indirectly.

The scandal arose when the U.S. arms shipments to Iran were revealed. This was in direct violation of Reagan's own orders

prohibiting such sales. But what really is remarkable is the incredible eagerness of the press to pick up these revelations and turn them into a huge scandal, the biggest since Watergate. Why?

The real reason for the original Watergate scandal was bitter and angry splits within the Nixon White House over foreign and domestic policies. Some of the advisers close to Reagan favour closer relations with the Arab and Muslim world. Why? Because that is where the oil is. They also want to overthrow the Sandinista government in Nicaragua. Why? Because they are vehemently anti-Communist. These same advisers tend to favour arms agreements with the Soviets.

Others are in bitter and angry opposition. They favour Israel as the chief U.S. ally in the Middle East. They are suspicious about arms deals with the Soviets. And they are dubious about a direct assault against Nicaragua though they are anti-Sandinista.

The Reagan advisers who engineered the Iran arms deals hoped to mollify the others by dragging Israel into the arms deals. But the Iranians have now said that the Israelis played only a minor part in the entire affair.

As in Watergate, both liberals and conservatives are angry at the Reagan White House. The liberals may differ with each other over many issues but all are staunchly pro-Israel. The conservatives too differ with each other over many issues, but like Vice-president Bush, they, as a whole, favour the oil interests. That means the conservatives are more sympathetic to openings to the Arab and Muslim world even though most profess publicly their pro-Israel sympathies.

My own sense is that the Reagan operatives hoped that this secret diplomacy could have produced the following sequence:

(a) release of the hostages, (b) OPEC agreement and oil company compliance to raise oil prices, (c) public evidence of a newer and friendlier atmosphere between Saudi Arabia, the Gulf states, and Iran, (d) a change of government in Iraq followed by an end to the war, (e) implementation of the earlier Damascus tripartite accord to return stability to Lebanon, and (f) all that being done, the stage would have been set to attempt a resolution of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict.

And at the same time, the U.S. would have launched forceful actions, direct or indirect, to overthrow the Sandinista government in Nicaragua well before the 1988 presidential election campaigns. If such settlements had taken place in the Middle East and the Sandinistas had been overthrown, the vice-president would have been given major credit, a strong plus for him in the 1988 race.

Yet even though the U.S. presidency is weakened, some of the directions pursued could be useful. There is a challenge for the Middle Eastern countries to act on their own. An end to the Iran-Iraq war is urgent. Peace in Lebanon is urgent. And a settlement in both will strengthen the hand of the Palestinians (despite the terrible fighting in Lebanon) in the inevitable negotiations with the Israelis.

The good secret diplomacy could now go on again in the Middle East while the bad secret operations against Nicaragua might now end. The Sandinistas have in some ways created a repressive regime, but worse even than that would be a return to the corrupt and discredited regimes of the past.

President Reagan gave approval to dialogue with Iran, says McFarlane

WASHINGTON (USIA) —

Former national security adviser Robert McFarlane says President Reagan gave his approval last year to entering a political dialogue with Iranians identified as elements of authority within that country "who might be oriented toward evolutionary change."

McFarlane told the House of Representatives Committee on Foreign Affairs Dec. 8 that it served U.S. interests to try to establish contact with such elements in preference to dealing with a "persistently hostile Iran in an ever-advancing state of economic and military chaos."

McFarlane detailed to the committee his recollection of the role he played in establishing a dialogue with Iranian officials.

Following is the text of McFarlane's statement:

Mr. Chairman, I welcome the opportunity to appear today before the committee and to respond to your interest in the policy foundation and the conduct of initiatives undertaken with Iranian officials during my service in this administration. I have been away from the city or out of the country for much of the past three weeks. And without the benefit of thorough reference to my records, my testimony today will rely almost entirely on recollection. I will remain at the committee's disposal for such follow up testimony as may be considered worthwhile.

If it meets the committee's approval, I propose to present in the next few minutes a narrative account of my association with — or, where I had no association, the extent of my knowledge concerning — the matters before you.

At the outset, I should say that the risks posed for U.S. interest by a persistently hostile Iran in an ever-advancing state of economic and military chaos is not in dispute by most analysts. The corollary to this axiom is that, if ever it proved feasible, it would serve U.S. interests to try to establish contact with elements of authority within Iran who might be oriented toward evolutionary change, whether toward non-alignment or neutrality. Until the summer of 1985 no such elements were identified.

In early July of last year, I was contacted by a government official of one of our closest friends in the Middle East who, on instruction of his government, reported that his government had succeeded in establishing a dialogue with Iranian officials and others of influence in whom they had great confidence. According to this official, these persons represented themselves as conscious of the harm to Iranian interests that had been done by Iran's theocratic crusade, by their support for

terrorism and separately by the war with Iraq. They were also concerned over their growing vulnerability to Soviet pressures whether through Afghanistan or directly through the Transcaucasus. These concerns had led them collectively to ask the third country to determine whether the U.S. government would be interested in opening political talks with them.

I probed at this point to determine with greater concreteness, just why our friends found these people credible; what gave legitimacy to their bonafides; why were we not to believe that they were self-serving opportunists etc. In the course of the hours spent in this and subsequent conversations we were presented with extremely persuasive intelligence information which I would be glad to discuss in closed session.

It was also explained to us that the Iranians involved understood our natural concern over their authority and good faith and consequently, as a demonstration of their goodwill would use their influence with radical elements within Lebanon who held U.S. and other national hostages. I was asked if we had an interest in such a dialogue, which of three alternative turn-over arrangements for the hostages we might prefer. In this conversation there was no request for arms in any respect nor linkage made between arms and the release of the hostages although we were told of the possibility that arms might be raised in the future. I was asked to provide the U.S. government position.

Within a few days, I conveyed this information to the president as well as the relevant cabinet officers. The president reflected on the matter and gave his approval to such a political dialogue. I relayed this information. Nothing happened and nothing was heard from anyone in this regard for about a month.

In early August, 1985, the foreign official returned to Washington, having met with the Iranian intermediaries. He stated that their attention had been focused on other events within Iran and that while they remained most interested, they were becoming extremely concerned over their own vulnerability. At some length he explained how they recognised the need to reach out to other figures of authority within Iran in the Army and Revolutionary Guards — to broaden their constituency — but would need help to do so. More specifically, they stated that the clearest demonstration to these elements of their influence with the United States would be the ability to provide modest

quantities of military hardware. I was asked for the position of the U.S. government toward providing such arms. I stated that while I would seek such a position, my own judgment was that we could not do so because of our concerns over the application of such arms to the war with Iraq and our separate concerns over trafficking with unknown figures in Iran in any respect, especially if the effect of our assistance might be to contribute to Iran's policies of supporting terrorism. The official stressed that the matter had to be seen as involving opponents of current Iranian policy, not with proponents of the extreme policies of the past. He then asked what our position would be toward his own government providing arms to Iran. I asked why they would do that. He stated that his government had its own interests but that important among them, was contributing to the strengthening of the U.S. position in the Middle East and that if their providing small quantities of arms would help then they might do so. He acknowledged that if they were to do so, that ultimately they would need to replace them with purchases from the U.S. He asked for our position toward such an arrangement. I reported to the president and appropriate cabinet officers.

The several risks and potential problems concerning U.S. policy toward terrorism, the Iran-Iraq war and so forth were discussed. The president decided that if these persons or factions in Iran were truly opposed to terrorism and committed to seeking change in Iranian policies over time, that they would indeed be vulnerable and to help them would not represent a violation of U.S. policy. He stated that if a third government went ahead to provide them with small quantities of arms — nothing that would alter the military balance with Iraq or that could be used for terrorist purposes — that the third country could purchase replacement items from the United States. I conveyed this information to the government official, stressing that our foremost interest was in a political dialogue.

Proceeding from that position, in the next three months, negotiations took place between our friends and the Iranians which culminated in two shipments of military equipment — one in August or September consisting of TOW missiles, and a second in November, 1985, later returned by Iran.

By November, however, it seemed to me that the purpose of the undertaking was not being fulfilled. We were not dealing with the Iranians directly at all and such dealings as were taking place were being skewed toward the hostages alone. I urged that a meeting be arranged in which we would deal with the Iranians directly. The president agreed and a meeting was arranged to take place on December 8, 1985 in London.

In preparation for that meeting, a meeting was convened by the president on December 7 to consider the position we would take. The secretaries of state and defence and the DCI (Director of Central Intelligence) took part as did Mr. Reagan and Admiral Poindexter. The president decided that I should go to the meeting and make two basic points: first that we remained open to political discussions with competent Iranian authorities on a political agenda which I was to summarise; and second, that we would not engage in arms shipments to Iran nor encourage others to do so.

The meeting took place in mid afternoon in London. I made the two points as instructed. The Iranian interlocutor acknowledged their willingness to engage in the exchanges on the agenda proposed but stated that his superiors could not afford to take the risks under present circumstances. In order to do so, they needed to be greatly strengthened through the provision of arms. I acknowledged what he had said but made it emphatically clear that we would have nothing to do with arms transfers. The meeting ended after about three hours and I returned to the United States. Within two days I debriefed the president and other cabinet officers, stating that I had carried out my instructions and that there was no basis for carrying the matter further. I then left the government assuming that the matter was closed. In my farewell call on the president, he asked whether he could call on me for advice and help in the future; I said that he could.

I had no involvement with whatever took place on this or any other matter during the period January-April 1986. Even today, I have no detailed knowledge of such activities as may have taken place. But in late April, Admiral Poindexter called and stated summarily: that the president had approved resumption of the dialogue; that a finding had been approved by the president with the concurrence of the attorney general that authorised the transfer of weapons; that certain undefined weapons already had been delivered; that an arrangement had been reached through which all the hostages would be returned in connection with certain additional transfers of repair parts; and that at that point the Iranians had agreed to open political exchanges. He asked

whether I would be willing to represent the United States in those political talks. I said that I would. Several weeks elapsed without further word. Then during the third week in May, I was asked to meet with government officials for briefings in preparation for the trip. Following those briefings I met with Admiral Poindexter who provided my instructions as approved by the president. They dealt with political matters such as U.S. interests in the Gulf area, in the Middle East more generally, U.S. disagreements with Iranian policies, the U.S. view of Soviet interests and capabilities vis-a-vis Iran, etc.

While enroute to Iran I was given a summary briefing on how the separate but related return of the hostages was to take place. I can give you a general account of these arrangements; others who had been directly involved can furnish precise details.

Upon our arrival, we were received and quartered in the Hilton hotel; arrangements were made for talks to begin the next day. In closed session I will be glad

to give you a detailed account of those talks which involved Iranian officials of high influence.

But after three days, as anxious as the Iranians were for us to stay, the fact was that they had shown a clear breach of faith in not fulfilling their commitment to secure the release of the American hostages. While professing apology and beseeching us to stay, they acknowledged that they did not have total control over radical elements in Lebanon. We returned home. I debriefed the president. Following that meeting, I assumed that no further actions would be taken by the U.S. government. This expresses my knowledge of this matter with one exception.

While enroute to or returning from Iran, I was advised that the U.S. government had applied part of the proceeds from arms transfers carried out in 1986, to support of the contras. I received no details. In context, I took it from the summary reference that this action was a matter of approved policy sanctioned by higher authority.

LETTERS

Children's rights

To the Editor:

"A man's destiny stands not in the future but in the past. That, rightly considered, is the most vital of vital facts. Every child thus has a right to choose his own ancestors. Naturally he can only do this vicariously, through his parents. It is the most serious and sacred duty of the future father to choose one half of the ancestral and hereditary character of his future child; it is the most serious and sacred duty of the future mother to make a similar choice. In choosing each other they have between them chosen the whole ancestry of their child. They have determined the stars that will largely rule his fate."

The above gems were written by Havelock Ellis, the great English psychologist, sociologist, and sexologist.

Your child has the right to choose you. Before a man and a woman unite in holy matrimony, they ought to have their future child in contemplation, and his welfare under careful consideration. By his birth, he not only completes the triangle of love, but also cements an already fragile relationship. This third-party intruder, with absolute rights and no obligations, forces his way through and makes enormous demands and claims on his parent's time, patience, energy, and understanding.

A mother's indifference towards the essential needs of her child is not only unfortunate, but a tragedy. Its effects come on the scene after the passage of several decades. For at a time when a child needs the love, care, attention and understanding of his mother most of all, the mother turns her back on him and enters or re-enters the labour market, leaving him to the bottle and under the care of a servant. The insignificant material gains that she earns today will never compensate her for the future loss of her son or daughter.

The proper question to ask is not whether such and such a person is of a good reputation, but whether such and such a person is a good character. For a person's reputation could be slandered without a proper or justifiable cause by vicious minded agents of the devil. Character, on the other hand, remains twenty-four carat gold. Abraham Lincoln once said, "Character is like a tree and reputation like its shadow. The shadow is what we think of it; the tree is the real thing."

I am perfectly in earnest regarding the cultivation of the mind, and the development of the character of our young ladies. This significant task is the inalienable responsibility of our women's societies.

If we take care of the pennies, the pounds will take care of themselves.

George N. Saleh,
 P.O. Box 996,
 Amman.

Bokassa affair could embarrass Central African leaders

By Roger May
 Reuters

BANGUI — The trial of ex-emperor Jean-Bedel Bokassa in the Central African Republic could prove an embarrassment for President Andre Kolingba if a death sentence on the former "crator" is confirmed, according to diplomats here.

Bokassa, Central African emperor until he was ousted in 1979, is accused of crimes ranging from assassination to cannibalism, for which he was sentenced to death in his absence in 1980.

Confirmation of the death sentence would put General Kolingba in an awkward position, diplomats in Bangui said.

The 65-year-old Bokassa took this former French colony completely by surprise when he flew home from exile near Paris in October. He was immediately detained and his re-trial ordered.

But a brief appearance in a packed Bangui courtroom on November 26 showed Bokassa still retains support among the republic's 2.8 million people despite his alleged atrocities.

Many of the hundreds of Central Africans massed outside the court cheered when Bokassa insisted on being called "field marshal" rather than "soldier," the rank to which he was demoted after being ousted in a 1979 coup.

He also won approval when he accused France's former President Valery Giscard d'Estaing of inventing his crimes to justify sending in French troops to overthrow him.

Many diplomats and Central Africans expect the court to confirm the death sentence when it reconvenes on December 15.

According to the most widely-held theory, Kolingba, who has not had anyone executed during his five years in power, would then grant Bokassa clemency and look for a country to take him as an exile.

But many things could go wrong before this scenario is enacted, diplomats say.

Bokassa has already given Central Africans a public reminder of France's prominent civilian and military presence in their country.

French military advisers look

after Kolingba's security and help maintain public order but their presence in the landlocked nation is not welcomed by all and there were serious riots after a French military jet crashed in the capital Bangui last March, killing over 30 people.

But France is generally credited with restoring political stability after the virtual breakdown of government in the years before Bokassa was ousted and the abortive attempts of his civilian successor, David Dacko, to set up a viable multi-party system.

"If the French pulled out tomorrow, the situation of Kolingba or any other president would be very dicey," said one Western diplomat.

Bokassa is being defended by two French and three Central African lawyers and the tactics they will use when his case resumes are uncertain.

A decision to execute Bokassa would compromise Kolingba's efforts to give the country a more humane image and could also inflame opinion in Bokassa's birthplace, the Lobaye region in the south-west of the country,

On the other hand, clemency could be construed as a sign of weakness if the court finds Bokassa guilty of crimes which include ordering the massacre of schoolchildren, poisoning a young baby and embezzling state funds.

Bokassa's true support is hard to gauge but many Central Africans compare the more prosperous times under his rule with the hardship stemming from current policies of economic austerity demanded by the International Monetary Fund.

"Papa Bok" was also a more charismatic figure than Kolingba, who made his first public speech in Bangui only at the end of October.

The speech opened the campaign for a referendum held on November 21 in which 91 per cent of the voters backed a new one-party constitution and made Kolingba president for the next six years.

But a quarter of the inhabitants in Bangui opposed the new constitution, an unusually high figure on a continent where polls regularly give the incumbent leader more than 99 per cent support.



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UNICEF calls for urgent world attention to the 'silent emergency' of infant and child mortality

By P.V. Vivekanand

Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The lives of over 1.5 million children are saved every year around the globe as a result of programmes initiated by the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) since 1980, according to the State of the World's Children Report released on Wednesday.

The report, which constitutes a summary of UNICEF activities every year, said low-cost health programmes saved the lives of more than four million children in developing countries in the past five years.

Outlining the various UNICEF programmes, including the world-wide campaign for "universal immunisation for all by 1990," the report said simple health knowledge and inexpensive treatments could be used to save another seven million children under the age of five every year.

The major thrust of the world-wide campaign, said the report, focuses on reaching every nook and corner of the globe, offering protection in the form of vaccines against the six major child killers — polio, measles, diphtheria, whooping cough, tuberculosis and tetanus.

The UNICEF report, released in Amman at a press conference held by Mr. Richard Reid, UNICEF regional director for the Middle East and North Africa, said 77 countries, with 90 per cent of the Third World's children, had pledged and undertaken campaigns to immunise at least 80 per cent of their children by the year 1990.

The report said some 377 million doses of vaccines were supplied by UNICEF to about 100 countries in the developing world. It predicted that one billion doses are expected to reach the world's children by the year 1990.

The report cited the UNICEF campaigns in Turkey, where 20,000 children are saved every year, and Egypt, where over 50,000 dying children were saved in 1986 through using the oral rehydration therapy to counter diarrhoea.

The report advocated basic health education programmes in developing countries to increase the awareness of how the infant mortality rate could be brought down.

Philosophical aspect

Mr. Reid, in a statement made at the outset of Wednesday's press conference, summed up the statistics of the report and presented what he said was the "philosophical" aspect of the report.

Pointing out that the 14 million

poor children die from preventable diseases every year, Mr. Reid said it was time that the international community exerted the "moral muscle to end that obscene situation."

The best way to assess the development status of any country is through a review of the infant and child mortality rate in that country, said Mr. Reid. If there was no drop in the number of infant dying before reaching the age of one and the number of children dying before reaching the age of four, then it could be said that there was no advancement in the country, Mr. Reid said.

At the same time, he pointed out, "everything that is needed — vaccines, syringes, the social, administrative and organisational infrastructure and health volunteers — sufficient to reach every child in the world are available and it is time public morality met with capacity."

Is it acceptable, he asked, that 280,000 children die every day in the world when the international community has at its disposal all the means to save almost all of them?

Citing as an example, Mr. Reid asked what would be the reaction if 30 children were to die in one accident — as a result of industrial malfunction or a simple road mishap — and if such an accident was repeated the next day.

"The whole country would wake up and mobilise to prevent any recurrence of such an incident," Mr. Reid noted and asked why the same reaction is not generated in the case of the "silent majority" — where 30 children die every day in an "unseen way, away from public and unknown to the public in areas dispersed across the country."

"A new sense of attitude is needed of what is acceptable and what is not," he said.

Efforts on all levels, from the leadership to the grassroots, are needed to bring about such a change in attitude, he said and called on the information media, "our chief allies," to work towards generating as much public interest and focus as possible on the "silent emergency."

Jordan

Turning to the situation in Jordan, Mr. Reid said UNICEF considers the Kingdom's experience in protecting its children as a model for Third World countries. He said about 88 per cent of the children in the Kingdom have been vaccinated against diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus — "a rate which is more than that of many European and American countries."

He conceded that Jordan still faced a good way to go before the same thing could be said about



In the last two years, the mass media has prevented mass deaths in Africa. But there is also an emergency which can't be framed in the viewfinder of a camera — the 'silent emergency' of infection and undernutrition which kills more than 250,000 of the world's children every week. At least half of those deaths can now be prevented at a cost which all nations can afford, says UNICEF's 1987 State of the World's Children report (Photograph: Wendy Wallace)

neo-natal tetanus and measles, but said the Kingdom was moving fast towards achieving that goal.

Returning to the "philosophical" theme of the State of the World's Children Report, Mr. Reid noted that the global recession had stumped economic growth in many developing countries. A direct effect of the situation is on health services and education thereby leaving a negative impact on the children of these countries.

Financial reforms and their negative impact on children

Furthermore, the "so-called reforms that major international financial institutions demand from debtor nations are another major problem for the people of the developing world," he pointed out.

"Devaluation of a currency, withdrawal of subsidies and restraints on loans to individuals etc. are part of the reforms demanded by the institutions and the first and foremost party directly affected by these measures are the poor," Mr. Reid said. "The country would of course be able to repay its debts, but at the cost of its people and

future generations," he said.

Scaled-down social programmes, health and educational services and declining interest in the welfare of the people are a natural result of the "so-called reforms" which "leave the poor and children vulnerable," he noted.

To support his argument, he quoted former Tanzanian President Julius Nyerere: "Must we starve our children to pay our debts?" On the same point, the State of the World's Children Report also referred to what Pakistani Finance Minister Maqbool Ul-Haq told a meeting of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund: "Must we starve our children to raise our defence expenditures?"

Quite ironically, said Mr. Reid, the total cost of immunising the entire child population of the world "is less than the cost of five advanced jet fighters."

He said UNICEF "insists that there is a way to adjust ourselves to the human face — which is neglected in the so-called reforms and international negotiations."

Asked what UNICEF was advocating as the means to counter the political and economic

considerations that prompt Third World countries to seek international loans, which in turn impose on them "reforms," Mr. Reid outlined "two sides of the equation."

On the international side, he called for:

- Stabilised raw material prices;
- Liberalised trade;
- More international aid to developing nations;
- An overhaul of World Bank interest rates.

On the national sides, he said the desired measures were:

- More loans for the poor, especially the farmer and the small industrialist;
- More labour-oriented public works projects which could alleviate unemployment and poverty;
- Priority for measures that do not hurt the vulnerable.

Reassessing priorities

"Nations should reassess and redraw their priorities," he said. "If the trend is towards more defence spending and implementing heavy industrial projects, then I have to say it is a backward trend," he added.

Mr. Reid was asked whether he had any comment on a report by a U.N. auditor that UNICEF was more involved in "showbusiness" fundraising activities like this year's "Sport Aid" for Africa and other similar events.

In reply, the UNICEF regional director went to the extent of detailing the charges contained in the report to the press conference and said: "I strongly disagree with (the U.N. auditor) and would like to confront him in a debate."

UNICEF campaigns

According to Mr. Reid, the highly-publicised UNICEF fundraising activities "are part of our strategy towards realising the UNICEF objectives."

Pointing out that these activities have generated a number of very successful UNICEF campaigns in various parts of the world, Mr. Reid said: "These constitute an extra vehicle for us to spread the message of UNICEF and its programmes."

He refuted the auditor's contention by pointing out that UNICEF was working within the scope of achieving its ultimate goals through organising the kind of activities that the auditor mentioned in his report.

On UNICEF programmes and activities in the Middle East and North Africa region, Mr. Reid said he expected the Arab and Islamic world to be the "winners" as a group in the "universal immunisation by 1990" campaign.

He said Turkey, Syria, Iraq, Saudi Arabia and Egypt were going ahead with successful immunisation campaigns and other Arab countries are not far behind. "I did not include Jordan and Tunisia in the list because these two countries have already achieved a very high level of immunisation percentage," he said.

Palestinian refugees

In reply to a question on the status of UNICEF activities in Palestinian refugee camps in the occupied Arab territories, Mr. Reid said: "It is quite good, though not to the desired level."

On the whole, in the four regions where UNICEF cooperates with the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) for Palestine refugees — Jordan, Syria, Lebanon and the occupied West Bank and Gaza — Mr. Reid said "the condition of the children inside the camps are as good as those outside within the context of UNICEF programmes."

On UNICEF activities other than the global immunisation campaign, Mr. Reid said the organisation was also involved in primary and pre-school education, nutrition and water and sanitation projects in various parts of the world. Furthermore, another major area of UNICEF interest is education for girls, "since we believe that the health of children could be better protected by well-educated mothers and therefore educating girls is one of our main concerns."

He cited as an example Saudi Arabia, where UNICEF cooperated with the local authorities to set up a major education project for girls.

In conclusion, Mr. Reid said: "UNICEF is for all children of the world. We have no politics."

"We believe that the best bridge to peace and understanding is through children. Just as UNICEF has no politics, the children also do not have any political motivations. Someone should speak for them and UNICEF does it for them."

Randa Habib's Corner

Walking children?

ON my way from home to the office, I often see a seven-year-old boy with his school bag on his back, walking along the street alone. One day when it was raining very heavily, I offered him a ride. The boy accepted happily. And so, I learned that every morning he walks from his home to the school, a distance that I estimated at around three kilometres.

"My mother is busy with my brothers and sisters and there is nobody to drive me to school," the young boy told me, adding proudly: "I can take care of myself."

I wondered, a small boy alone in that isolated area, I shivered. Cases similar to that of this school boy are unfortunately common. Too many young children walk long distances to school everyday, at an age that they shouldn't be left alone, exposed to the rain, the cold and the dangers of the road.

The Ministry of Education should study the possibility of securing transportation for school children at low prices, subsidised by the government. Those school children at public schools who usually live in the same area of their school can't be brought to school by their parents for many reasons.

At the same time, some parents' indifference is revolting. Some of them make their children walk to school because they are too lazy to drive them. Or even worse, children who come back home from school at 4 p.m. are often only remembered and checked by their parents at ten at night because many parents are themselves late to come home.



In the last two years, more children have died in India and Pakistan than in all 46 nations of Africa put together. More have died this year in Bangladesh than in Ethiopia. More in Mexico than in the Sudan. More in Indonesia than in all eight drought-stricken countries of the Sahel — UNICEF (Illustration: Peter Bryant)

280,000 a week die in silent emergency

A BOLD new idea is set out in this year's State of the World's Children report from the executive director of UNICEF, James Grant. "In the last forty years," says the report, "there has been a major change in global morality. Today, the world no longer allows millions of its children to die in drought or famine anywhere on the planet. Whether the crisis be Africa or Kampuchea, the attention of the mass media means that peoples and governments act to prevent mass deaths."

Forty years ago, the report points out, no such ethic prevailed. In the early 1940s, for example, over 3 million men, women, and children starved to death in Calcutta and Bengal while the world knew little and did less.

"Such a change," says the report, "is a significant step towards a more truly civilised world. But on its fortieth anniversary, UNICEF's message to the world is that the time has now come to take the next step."

The greatest emergency facing the world's children today is the unpublicised "silent emergency" of infection and undernutrition. "No low emergency, no famine, no drought, no food, has ever killed 280,000 children in a week. Yet that is what this silent emergency is now doing — every week."

Even during the African crisis of the last two years, for example,

more children have died in India and Pakistan than in all 46 nations of Africa put together.

"It makes no moral difference that these millions of children did not die in any one particular place at any one particular time," says the UNICEF report. "But it does mean that their suffering cannot be framed in the viewfinder of a camera. And it does mean that their deaths are therefore not news, and that the world is not shamed into action on their behalf. Yet these victims of the silent emergency are just as dead. And the love and the hopes of their families are just as surely turned to grief."

UNICEF points out that the world could now defeat infection and malnutrition on a massive scale — even in such difficult economic times. And because of this new potential, UNICEF's fortieth anniversary message to the world is that "the time has now come for governments and people to decide that it is just as unacceptable for so many millions of children to die every year of needless malnutrition and infection as it is for them to die in sudden droughts or famines."

Existing knowledge about low-cost ways of dramatically improving child health — methods such as oral rehydration therapy (ORT), immunisation, birth spacing, breast-feeding, and improved weaning — mean that it is now possible to save the lives of at least 7 million children a year

and to protect the normal growth of many millions more — at a price which almost all nations and almost all families can afford.

As a dramatic demonstration of that potential, says the report, "the lives of over 4 million children have already been saved in the last five years alone, by nations which have mobilised to put these low-cost solutions at the disposal of the majority of their citizens."

The promotion of immunisation and ORT alone, says Grant, has saved the lives of 1.5 million children in 1986.

In other words, it can no longer be seen as "normal" for 14 million of the world's young children to die each year and for millions more to live on in malnutrition and ill health. "It is therefore time," says UNICEF, "for morality to catch up with capacity."

Such a widening in the lens of world concern is, in UNICEF's view, fundamental to the state of the world's children in the remaining years of this century. "Changes in prevailing opinion and attitudes," says the report, "are the moral context for changes in the world of events, the climate in which ideas and movements flourish or perish. At different times in the past, for example, prevailing opinion has accepted the evils of slavery and apartheid; but changes in that climate of opinion have eventually deprived

such ideas of the oxygen of tolerance, the sustenance of acceptance."

"Surely, on this fortieth anniversary of UNICEF, the time has come for the international community to say that it is also intolerable for 40,000 of its young children to die every day, and for millions more to be malnourished, blinded, brain-damaged and disabled in the silent emergency of infection and malnutrition which the world has already demonstrated its capacity to prevent on a significant scale and at a manageable cost."

"Surely the time has come to say that it is obscene to let this continue day after day, year after year, as our civilisation moves into the twenty-first century."

"We now have the knowledge. We now have the means. And if political and public opinion in the world were to burn with intolerance of readily preventable disease and malnutrition, then who would really deny that these evils could be brought to an end in our times?"

The report documents over twenty examples of nations which are now attempting to put existing knowledge about low-cost child health measures into action on the necessary scale. A 1985 decision to drastically increase immunisation in Turkey, for example, is today saving the lives of over 22,000 Turkish children each year. Similarly, a 1983 decision to teach all Egyptian

parents about the new oral rehydration therapy may already have halved the death rate from diarrhoeal disease — which at the beginning of the 1980s was killing over 100,000 Egyptian children each year.

"Over the last twenty years," says Grant, "a communications revolution has put radios in a majority of homes, televisions in a majority of villages, schools and health workers in a majority of communities, and given developing societies a communications capacity immeasurably greater than that available to industrialised nations at a comparable stage of their own development."

Exploiting this capacity, says the report, is a way of reaching better levels of human health even in the difficult economic circumstances now confronting so many third world nations.

"No-one could deny that limits are — and will be — imposed by poverty," says Grant. "But even within those limits a new era in child health can now begin. And by protecting the lives and growth of millions of young children, a major long-term contribution can be made towards the war on poverty and the slowing down of population growth in the remaining years of this century. For there will always be profound relationship between the mental physical development of children and the social and economic development of their societies." — UNICEF feature.



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Thai boxers retain titles

Samart, Sot stop opponents in Bangkok bouts

BANGKOK, Thailand (AP) — Thailand's Samart Payakarun hammered Juan "Kid" Meza of Mexico into submission and retained his World Boxing Council super bantamweight crown Wednesday.

The referee stopped the fight at 2 minutes, 44 seconds of the 12th and final round when Samart knocked his opponent to the canvas with a powerful left hook to the face. The judges ruled a victory by technical knockout.

In an earlier bout, another Thai, Sot Chitalada, unleashed streaks of powerful jabs and hooks and retained his WBC flyweight crown in a unanimous decision over Mexican Gabriel Bernal.

The judges scored that 12-round bout 119-109, 120-110 and 117-102 in favour of the 24-year-old Thai, who had beaten the no. 1 contender twice previously.

The 24-year-old Samart dominated his fight from the start. He bloodied his opponent's nose in the second and seventh rounds,

opened up a cut above the left eye in the eighth and sent him tumbling to the canvas twice.

Samart, alternating jabs and hooks to the body and face, looked like he had Meza put away several times during the fight, but the Mexican held on stubbornly.

But in the final round, Meza showed almost total exhaustion, flailing away impotently at Samart. Just before the final blow, Samart simply toyed with the Mexican, letting him connect with a few punches while swaying back and forth on the ropes.

Then he suddenly snapped into action and delivered a stunning blow that floored the 29-year-old Meza.

Samart won his crown by knocking out Mexican Lupe Pintor in the fifth round in

January. Samart now has a record of 13 victories — seven by knockout — against no losses. Meza, who lost the title to Pintor last year, has 42 victories — 32 by knockouts — and eight losses.

Samart and Meza, the no. 8 contender, both weighed in at the super bantamweight division limit of 122 pounds (55.4 kilograms).

Thai Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanonda and other senior officials watched the bouts at Hua Mark Indoor Stadium. Prem offered some pre-fight advice to the fighters and presented WBC championship belts to the two Thais.

Sot also set the pace from the first round, exhibiting adroit footwork and quick, powerful jabs.

The Thai went for his opponent's face in the first four rounds and then switched to Bernal's mid-section. The middle rounds turned into a close-quarters slugfest that seemed to leave both fighters weakened.

But Sot's punching, especially a fast and powerful left hook, took the steam out of Bernal's attempted offensive in the eighth. Bernal managed to sustain some attacking power until the end, trying hard for a knockout in the final two rounds.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Prince Hassan to receive peace trophy

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan was recently nominated for a Year of Peace trophy awarded by the International Olympic Committee. Prince Hassan was nominated by the Jordan Olympic Committee for his "continuous work in favour of peace," according to Secretary General Dr. Muafak Al-Fuwaz. Dr. Fuwaz said that he hopes the award can be presented to Prince Hassan Thursday at the meeting of the General Assembly for the General Secretary of the Arab Sports Federation to be held at the Palace of Culture.

Minister of Youth tours Mafrag

RAMTHA (Petra) — Minister of Youth Eid Duhayat Wednesday visited Mafrag and met with representatives of sports and youth centres. The Ministry of Youth is currently involved in working out a sports policy for Jordan to enable youth and sports centres to develop the skills of Jordanian youth, the minister said at a general meeting in the city. He laid the cornerstone of a sports complex in Mafrag which will be set up on a 60 dunum land at the cost of JD 36,000.

Caernarfon upsets York in FA Cup

LONDON (AP) — Welsh soccer club Caernarfon town upset English Third Division side York City 2-1 Tuesday to gain the third round of the F.A. (Football Association) Cup. But there was no joy for Chorley, another giant-killer from outside the 92-strong football league. Conqueror of once-famous Wolverhampton Wanderers, Chorley was crushed 5-0 by Fourth Division Preston North End. Both matches were replays of tied games staged last Saturday. The result earned Caernarfon a third round home match against Second Division Barnsley.

Australia IV slips further from lead

FREMANTLE, Australia (R) — Alan Bond, an Australian hero after winning the America's Cup for his country in 1983, suffered another blow to his hopes of defending yachting's most coveted prize when his boat Australia IV was soundly beaten Wednesday.

Kookaburra II trounced Australia IV by five minutes 11 seconds on the eighth day of racing in the third series. Despite the defeat, Australia IV remained second in the standings, nine points behind Kookaburra III, a 26-second winner over Steak 'n' Kidney in Wednesday's other defender race.

There was no racing Wednesday in the challenger series which is led by New Zealand from French Kiss and U.S. boats Stars and Stripes, America II and U.S.A.

Australia IV was in difficulty straightaway, crossing the start line 33 seconds behind Kookaburra II. The gap widened as the race progressed, intensifying the agony for skipper Colin Beashel, the mainsheet trimmer on Australia II which won the cup in Newport in 1983.

Bulgarian athlete seeks asylum

CANBERRA, Australia (AP) — World weightlifting champion Neum Shalamanov of Bulgaria, missing since Sunday, was found Wednesday by police who said the athlete planned to seek political asylum, a foreign ministry spokesman said.

Shalamanov, 19, one of the top weightlifters in the world, vanished after winning a record third World Cup title in Melbourne.

He was located Wednesday by police in the state of Victoria and announced his intention to stay in Australia, the foreign ministry spokesman said.

The spokesman, who under departmental policy cannot be named, told the Associated Press that Shalamanov had not yet formally applied for asylum.

A decision on whether to grant him asylum would be made by Foreign Minister Bill Hayden, who is currently in New Zealand, the official said.

24 NY marathoners are disqualified

NEW YORK (AP) — New York marathon officials reportedly have disqualified 24 runners for cheating. The New York Times reported Wednesday that race director Fred Lebow said the disqualified runners, including three of the top 100 finishers in the men's division, did not pass video checkpoints. Earlier, Antoti Niemczak of Poland, who finished second among the men, was disqualified after he twice tested positive for banned substances. The total of 25 disqualified runners set a New York Marathon record.

Liverpool beats Celtic in shootout

DUBAI (R) — English champion Liverpool beat Scottish counterpart Glasgow Celtic on penalties after their exhibition soccer match ended in a 1-1 draw Tuesday. Celtic took the lead through Owen Archdeacon in the 49th minute but Liverpool forced the penalty shoot-out, which it won 4-3 when captain Alan Hansen equalised after 87 minutes.

THE Daily Crossword by Kenneth White

ACROSS	DOWN
1 Tech readings	10 Thefts of the
5 Atom	14 Albany-Buffalo
10 Thefts of the	15 Winged
14 Albany-Buffalo	16 Footless
15 Winged	17 Bleeding
16 Footless	18 Boustrophedon
17 Bleeding	19 Yellow fever
18 Boustrophedon	20 Impressively
19 Yellow fever	21 Fence flight
20 Impressively	22 25 Cocktail
21 Fence flight	23 Minor minor
22 25 Cocktail	24 Service winners
23 Minor minor	25 Hog sound
24 Service winners	26 Impulsive
25 Hog sound	27 Miss Kent
26 Impulsive	28 Watered silk
27 Miss Kent	29 On the
28 Watered silk	30 preceding
29 On the	31 Impressively
30 preceding	32 Place or stem
31 Impressively	33 Estate
32 Place or stem	34 Krypton e.g.
33 Estate	35 Pronoun
34 Krypton e.g.	36 Bleedout
35 Pronoun	37 No. town
36 Bleedout	38 Impressively
37 No. town	39 Or, letter
38 Impressively	40 Reveal
39 Or, letter	41 Opening
40 Reveal	42 Use an abacus
41 Opening	43 True: Scot.
42 Use an abacus	44 22 Lefty
43 True: Scot.	45 26 Name
44 22 Lefty	46 27 Article
45 26 Name	47 Singer Perry
46 27 Article	48 Eng. school
47 Singer Perry	49 Monitor and
48 Eng. school	50 Marinus
49 Monitor and	51 Garment
50 Marinus	52 Lyricist
51 Garment	53 Whimsical name
52 Lyricist	54 Chair
53 Whimsical name	55 Alphabet run
54 Chair	56 Wood
55 Alphabet run	57 Automatic
56 Wood	58 realme: var.
57 Automatic	
58 realme: var.	

Yesterday's Puzzle Solvers

ACROSS	DOWN
1 Tech readings	10 Thefts of the
5 Atom	14 Albany-Buffalo
10 Thefts of the	15 Winged
14 Albany-Buffalo	16 Footless
15 Winged	17 Bleeding
16 Footless	18 Boustrophedon
17 Bleeding	19 Yellow fever
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21 Fence flight	23 Minor minor
22 25 Cocktail	24 Service winners
23 Minor minor	25 Hog sound
24 Service winners	26 Impulsive
25 Hog sound	27 Miss Kent
26 Impulsive	28 Watered silk
27 Miss Kent	29 On the
28 Watered silk	30 preceding
29 On the	31 Impressively
30 preceding	32 Place or stem
31 Impressively	33 Estate
32 Place or stem	34 Krypton e.g.
33 Estate	35 Pronoun
34 Krypton e.g.	36 Bleedout
35 Pronoun	37 No. town
36 Bleedout	38 Impressively
37 No. town	39 Or, letter
38 Impressively	40 Reveal
39 Or, letter	41 Opening
40 Reveal	42 Use an abacus
41 Opening	43 True: Scot.
42 Use an abacus	44 22 Lefty
43 True: Scot.	45 26 Name
44 22 Lefty	46 27 Article
45 26 Name	47 Singer Perry
46 27 Article	48 Eng. school
47 Singer Perry	49 Monitor and
48 Eng. school	50 Marinus
49 Monitor and	51 Garment
50 Marinus	52 Lyricist
51 Garment	53 Whimsical name
52 Lyricist	54 Chair
53 Whimsical name	55 Alphabet run
54 Chair	56 Wood
55 Alphabet run	57 Automatic
56 Wood	58 realme: var.
57 Automatic	
58 realme: var.	

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A LITTLE SEX

Performances 3:15, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30

OPERA

Tel: 675573

THE REPORT

(Arabic)

Performances 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30

PLAZA

Tel: 677420

FALLING IN LOVE

Performances 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 10:30

RAGHADAN

Tel: 622198

THE MIGHTY GIANT

Performances 12:15, 3:45, 6:00, 8:30, 10:30

Nicaraguan troops leave Honduras after clashes

TEGUCIGALPA (R) — Sandinista troops who crossed into Honduras to fight U.S.-backed rebels are returning to Nicaragua following a weekend Honduran air raid on Sandinista positions, a government spokesman said.

"Sandinista troops are leaving and the border tensions are beginning to wind down," acting Foreign Minister Guillermo Caceres Pineda said Tuesday.

Mr. Caceres also said the departure of Nicaraguan troops along the border who are fighting Nicaragua's leftist Sandinista government "would be positive because it would avoid border problems for us."

Diplomatic observers said the statement reflected Honduras' long-standing concern over the high concentration of Nicaraguan rebels in bases in Honduras.

Discontent over the Nicaraguan Democratic Force (FDN) presence in Honduras has grown in the past two weeks since it was revealed that \$10 to \$30 million in profits from a highly controversial U.S. arms deal with Iran were diverted for rebel use.

Congressmen say the deal may have violated restrictions on U.S. aid to the contras since Congress had not yet approved military aid for the rebels. Washington observers have said the scandal could doom future U.S. aid to the rebels from Congress.

Honduras has repeatedly told the Reagan administration it wants the 13,000 to 16,000 FDN troops to stay in Nicaragua, where they have scored few significant military victories since they began receiving CIA assistance in 1981.

Last week, Honduran President Jose Azcona told new U.S. Ambassador Everett Briggs that Honduras wanted rebel troops out of Honduras, a government official said.

Mr. Caceres denied a press report that Mr. Briggs had agreed to a plan to relocate rebel troops as early as April. One Honduran colonel commanding a battalion said that he thought that the contras will not leave until President Reagan wants them to.

Mr. Caceres said that in spite of the border clashes "relations with Nicaragua are not threatened" and added that the two nations would continue to have normal links.

Problems caused by the rebel presence in Honduras were underscored in November when more than 1,000 Sandinista troops crossed into the so-called Las Vegas Salient, 160 kilometres south east of Tegucigalpa in El Paraiso province, to battle the guerrillas.

Honduras sent warplanes and soldiers to repel the Sandinista troops over the weekend only after Sandinista troops attacked a Honduran border post, wounding three soldiers and capturing two, and sacked and burned three Honduran hamlets.

U.S. military sources said Honduras sent A-37 combat support jets to bomb the

U.S. admiral: No good alternatives to bases in Philippines

Nicaraguan town of Wiwili, 13 kilometres inside Nicaragua, in a spur-of-the-moment attack prompted when Sandinista troops fired an anti-aircraft weapon at a Honduran helicopter flying inside Honduras.

Western observers said the Sandinista actions against Honduras were viewed as a break in a tacit agreement between Honduras and Nicaragua that combat in Honduras is between Nicaraguans.

The Sandinistas have held permanent observation positions inside Honduras since July.

Nicaragua on Tuesday night called for an urgent meeting of the Security Council because of developments it said could lead to increased U.S. hostility.

Nicaraguan U.N. envoy Nora Astorga made the request at a meeting with the council president, who this month is U.S. Ambassador Vernon Walters.

Speaking to reporters beforehand, Mr. Astorga said Honduras had made baseless charges that 2,000 Nicaraguan troops were on its territory and had recently bombed two places inside Nicaragua.

Honduras had also stated publicly that it would carry out other unspecified action against Nicaragua, she said, while the United States had helped transport Honduran troops to the border.

"All of this has tremendous dangers... because it seems they are trying to create something that could lead to more involvement of the United States against Nicaragua," Mr. Astorga said.

The commander of the U.S. Pacific Fleet described the Philippines on Wednesday as crucial to American interests and said there were "no good alternatives" to maintaining U.S. military bases there.

Adm. James A. Lyons Jr. said the Philippines "is the key to the United States remaining a power" in the Western Pacific. He said the Soviets have demonstrated by their actions, including the buildup of naval forces, that "they are seeing it (the importance) as clearly as we do."

Adm. Lyons told reporters he is "optimistic in regard to the Philippines," but added that President Corason Aquino needs "some quick successes" in her efforts to improve the quality of life and rebuild the country's battered economy.

"The Philippines is our No. 1 problem in the Western Pacific. If democracy does not prevail, that would be one of the most destabilising factors in this part of the world," said the Hawaii-based admiral, who is winding up a tour of the region.

"The key to stability," he added, is not just what happens within the Philippines, but the role of the United States, Japan, Canada and other countries willing to invest in the nation.

Adm. Lyons said the Soviet Union has used "aggressive tactics" to expand its military presence in the Western Pacific.

The Soviets, he said, have conducted simulated military strikes from bases ranging from Vladivostok in the northern region of the Soviet Union to Cam Ranh Bay, the one-time U.S. base in southern Vietnam. The Soviets also have increased efforts to gain allies in the South Pacific, Adm. Lyons said.

Mrs. Aquino has not made a commitment to allow the bases to remain, but has resisted demands from leaders of the Philippines' Communist insurgency and other leftists who want the bases removed when the leases expire in 1991.

Zambian riots subside

LUSAKA, Zambia (AP) — Troops were rushed to towns in the northern copper region where rioting and looting over food price hikes left six people dead from police gunfire. Authorities reported 1,000 arrests of looters.

Zambian journalists reporting from Kitwe, scene of the worst violence on Tuesday, said troops rushed to the province Wednesday, and that a looter was killed by police. There were no details.

Kitwe is in the heart of the copper mining region, about 225 miles north east of the capital, and has a population of about 400,000.

The semi-official news agency, ZANA, reported that at the height of rioting in Kitwe the district governor, Bill Chanda was beaten up.

Rioters looted shops, homes and offices, overturned and set fire to cars, and damaged the offices of the ruling United National Independence Party in Kalulushi.

The Zambian reporters said it was the worst civil unrest since President Kenneth Kaunda led the former British colony of northern Rhodesia to independence on Oct. 24, 1964.

Employers urged workers to stay home Wednesday, and many offices and businesses in Lusaka were closed although the violence so far has not spread to the capital.

The Times of Zambia newspaper, published by the ruling party, carried a front page photograph Wednesday of a youth grasping at a chest wound and said he had been shot by paramilitary troops.

Witnesses to copperbelt towns said police used teargas and batons at first to break up the rioters. But later they fired live bullets at the mobs.

Police sources said the death toll from the violence since Monday could be as high as eight, but there were no official reports of casualties. Unofficial reports said there were six deaths.

A reporter for the government newspaper Zambia Mail reported from Kitwe that he saw police fire their rifles at a mob of looters who were stealing six Peugeot cars from a showroom. Several people were wounded, he said.

Hospitals were reported saying they admitted people with gunshot wounds in the towns of Chingola, Kalulushi, Kitwe and Mufulira.

Home Affairs Minister Cosmas Chibanda said Tuesday that the country was closing its borders "because of the serious situation" but he said authorities did not intend to bar visitors. It was not clear what the order meant but the British Broadcasting Corp. quoted Lusaka Radio as saying the closure was intended to prevent people from leaving.

COLUMNS 7 & 8

Cleveland mayor in hot water

CLEVELAND (R) — Cleveland's Mayor George Voinovich found himself in hot water, and facing a cold homecoming, after remarking during a visit to Israel that he felt safer there than in some parts of Cleveland. The mayor "is due back in Cleveland on Friday — unless he is detained at the border because of foot-in-mouth disease," the Cleveland Plain Dealer said in an editorial. Voinovich told a news conference in Tel Aviv that despite Israel's history of war and commando attacks "I feel safer here than in some neighbourhoods in my city."

Voinovich, who was in Israel attending a conference, later issued a clarification saying what he meant was "I feel as safe in Israel as I do at home, in my own city."

Church criticised over AIDS move

LOS ANGELES (R) — Homosexual groups have criticised a Roman Catholic bishop for withdrawing support from an AIDS education programme because it promoted condoms as a safety measure. Representatives of about 15 homosexual groups told reporters the decision by Archbishop Roger Mahony to end church participation in the programme was indefensible. "What we are in the business of doing right now is saving lives," said Eric Rofes, director of the Gay and Lesbian Community Services Centre. "The church is not doing that." Mahony said on Saturday he was withdrawing support for a programme sponsored by the AIDS Project-Los Angeles (APLA) to educate the local Hispanic community about the disease because the church could not be seen as advocating homosexual relations or contraceptive devices for heterosexuals.

Sale of 42 Miro works nets \$3.7 m.

MADRID, Spain (AP) — A sale of 42 works by Spanish painter Joan Miro netted 504 million pesetas (\$3.72 million) at the first international art auction held in Spain. Sotheby's Director Edmund Peel said. The 1965 oil on canvas 5 plus 2 equal 7 brought 47.5 million pesetas (\$350,000), the highest single price paid at the auction. A dealer who declined to give his name said he had bought the oil and 14 other works at the auction in the name of an anonymous American who planned to donate them to the Museum of Modern Art in Tel Aviv, Peel said. All the pieces had belonged to Pilar Juncosa, the widow of the painter who died at age 90 at his home on the Mediterranean island of Majorca in 1983. Proceeds from the auction were to establish the Pilar and Joan Miro Foundation in Majorca. Other Miro Foundations exist in Barcelona, Spain and St. Paul de Vence, France. Miro, whose work combines abstract art and surrealist fantasy, created the pieces sold Tuesday between 1938 and 1981.

Italians prefer daughters, survey says

ROME (R) — Parents in Italy, traditional bastion of male supremacy, now prefer daughters, according to an opinion poll published in the news magazine Panorama. According to the telephone poll 30 per cent of those questioned would prefer a daughter to a son, 27 per cent wanting a boy. The remainder were undecided. The finding was a major surprise in Italy where in the past male children were considered a triumph and females a failure. Birth of a boy in traditional families was greeted by congratulations and celebration parties but a daughter often provoked commiseration from friends and neighbours. The poll was prompted by the birth in Naples last week of a test tube baby whose sex was determined by doctors, believed to be the first case of its kind in Europe. The father chose a daughter because he said it would be better company for his wife while he was away on business.

Chinese students seek more democracy

PEKING (R) — Major demonstrations over the past few days by Chinese students calling for more democracy reflect a wide interest in Western political ideas among young people, Western diplomats said Wednesday.

Foreign sources in the eastern city of Hefei said everything was quiet Wednesday after a demonstration by about 3,000 students Tuesday. They marched through the city centre chanting slogans such as "no democracy, no modernisation."

Officials of the city government, contacted from Peking by telephone, said they welcomed the marches as a healthy sign.

"This is a good thing," one official said. "The purpose is to publicise the electoral law under the constitution."

Foreigners in Hefei, capital of Anhui province, said the police and Communist Party officials had been very cooperative with the marchers. They said there had been no confrontations or angry scenes during the protests over the past few days.

But they said officials had also toured classrooms at Anhui University and other colleges in the city, checking on the names of students who were absent from class during the demonstrations.

They were the first known protest marches by students in China since demonstrations in a number of cities just over a year ago in which students protested against issues including Japanese trade practices and official corruption.

The slogans used by the students in Hefei were reminiscent of the "Democracy Wall" Movement in 1978-9 in China when young people in many cities called for greater democracy. Western diplomats said.

Survey shows atomic bomb survivors fear nuclear war

TOKYO (AP) — A survey of survivors of the world's first atomic bomb attacks in Hiroshima and Nagasaki shows 89 per cent worry about the outbreak of a nuclear war, a polling organisation official has said.

The poll also showed that nearly a quarter complained of work problems related to radiation sickness.

The survey was conducted by the Japan Confederation of A and H Bomb Sufferers Organisations over a five-month period starting in November 1985.

A total of 13,169 people were questioned, said Terumi Tanaka, the organisation's general secretary.

He said it was the first time a survey had focused on the psychological sufferings of the survivors of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, where the United States dropped atomic bombs in the closing days of World War II in 1945.

Of those surveyed, Tanaka said, only 4 per cent "can really say they are in good health," while more than 80 per cent had been to hospitals for treatment at one time or another.

Arthritis, weak bones and high blood pressure were the leading complaints, Tanaka said.

He said more than 24 per cent complained of job-related anxieties, connected with being refused jobs or not being able to work properly as a result of radiation-related sickness.

About 2.5 per cent said they had been refused jobs because they were atomic bomb survivors, Tanaka added. He said that because of a lack of medical knowledge in the early postwar days, many prospective employers refused to hire bomb survivors for fear they would not be able to work properly and would get sick easily.

In school, he said, 12 per cent of those polled encountered problems keeping up with studies because of poor health.

U.K. lawyer, former MI5 agent reach compromise

SYDNEY, Australia (AP) — A judge ruled Wednesday that the British government need not reveal secret documents about its MI5 counter-espionage service after lawyers for the government and ex-MI5 senior officer Peter Wright reached a compromise deal.

Judge Philip Powell made the ruling in the South Wales state supreme court where the government is seeking an injunction against Heinemann Publishers Aust. Pty. Ltd. to stop publication of Wright's book Spycatcher.

Lawyer Malcolm Turnbull representing Wright and Heinemann told the court after agreeing the deal that because of what Theo Simos representing the government had revealed to him about the content of the secret papers, he would drop his demand to have the full documents handed over to him.

On Dec. 2, Powell ordered the British government to hand over the secret documents to Turnbull. The documents reportedly detail

why the government allowed publication of other books and television programmes on MI5 prior to Wright's book go ahead.

Powell has accused the government of apparent inconsistency in seeking to stop Spycatcher but letting their Trade Is Treachery by British journalist Chapman Pincher published in 1981 go ahead unhindered.

An appeal by the government against Powell's ruling on this point was scheduled to be heard on Thursday and Friday. But Simos said Wednesday that Britain would now drop the appeal.

The government argues that Spycatcher could endanger British security and contravenes a pledge undertaken by Wright and all other British intelligence personnel never to reveal details of their secret work.

Turnbull told the court: "I have a personal undertaking that what he (Simos) has told me is what is in the documents. As such, the documents would not seem to serve any further purpose."

Soviet dissident dies in jail

MOSCOW (AP) — Anatoly Marchenko, a prominent Soviet human rights activist whom the KGB recently tried to pressure into emigrating to Israel, has died in prison at the age of 48, a friend says.

Marchenko's wife, Larisa Bogoraz, was informed of the death in a telegram that arrived Tuesday, said the friend, who spoke on condition of anonymity. Ms. Bogoraz and the couple's 13-year-old son, Pavel, left for the

Chistopol Prison 804 kilometres east of Moscow, the friend said.

The telegram did not say how Marchenko died or when, she added.

The dissident, who spent 20 years in prison and internal exile, was a member of the disbanded Helsinki Watch Group that tried to monitor Soviet compliance with the 1975 accord on human rights. He also wrote the harrowing dissident chronicle My Testimony about his labour camp experience.

1 killed, 3 hurt as police fire at crowd in Karachi

KARACHI (R) — A man was killed and three people were injured Wednesday when police fired on a stone-throwing crowd in Karachi, Pakistan's biggest city, hospital doctors said.

Police said a police station came under attack in the volatile suburb of Liaquatabad during a day of protest by members of the Mohajir immigrant community.

At least 10 policemen were injured by stones when rioting crowds burned buses, blocked roads and forced shops to close down in four districts, they said.

Police used teargas to disperse the protesters, who were marking last month's ethnic riots.

At least 58 people were killed after Mohajirs, immigrants from other parts of former British India, clashed with their traditional rivals the Pashtuns from north west Pakistan last month.

The hospital doctors identified the dead man as Habib Ur Rehman, 25, and said he was shot in the head.

Witnesses said at least 15 people had been arrested.

2 Kenyans jailed for ties with underground group

NAIROBI (R) — A Kenyan teacher has been sentenced to six years in jail for taking an unlawful oath of membership in the outlawed leftist underground movement Mwakanya, which the government accuses of seeking power by force.

Christopher Oduor, who taught in a high school, was sentenced by a court in Nairobi Tuesday. The court also gave another teacher, James Mwaogili Kahiri, a 15-month sentence for failing to report Mwakanya publications to the police.

The sentences bring to 46 number of people convicted in connection with Mwakanya since the organisation's existence became public in April. Diplomats say many more are in detention.

Kenya's conservative government says Mwakanya plans to mobilise people to overthrow the government by force and replace it with a socialist administration.

Prosecutor Bernard Chunga told the court Oduor took the Mwakanya oath in 1983 in the central town of Githunguri.

He said that three years earlier Oduor had met Kenyan exiles in Kampala and formed a group called the Kenya People's Democratic Front.

In parliament Tuesday, Minister of State Justus Ole Tipis said the government was investigating allegations that Mwakanya had contacts in the National Christian Council of Kenya (NCCCK). A Protestant umbrella organisation that has recently been in the forefront of criticism of Kenya's ruling party.

Former NCCCK official Walter Oeswe last week told a Nairobi court that senior members of the NCCCK had asked him to recruit church leaders into Mwakanya.

Tipis, who is in charge of internal security, told the house that people were using the NCCCK "to mislead Kenyans by creating fear and despondency in the country."

The NCCCK, which says it represents some six million Kenyan Protestants, has opposed recent constitutional changes strengthening the powers of President Daniel Arap Moi.

WEEKEND CROSSWORD

Edited by Herb Ettenson

MINERALOGY
By Dorothy R. Martin

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